EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided

by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be

submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview

with Jack Friedman on 09/08/2008.

Please amend the following claims:

17. (Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the at least one consistency condition

has been satisfied, and wherein the method further comprises:

deleting the one or more contiguous elements ~~element~~ in the first STI.

22. (Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the method further comprises:

determining whether said deleting one or more contiguous elements in the first

STI of the RSTI would corrupt another STI in the data table, wherein [[a]]said another

STI is corrupted ~~when~~ if said another STI is no longer structured according to its

associated ST, and wherein said consistency condition is that said determining has

determined that said deleting one or more contiguous elements in the first STI of the

RSTI would corrupt said another STI in the data table.

27. (Amended) The computer system of claim 26, wherein the at least one consistency condition has been satisfied, and wherein the method further comprises:

deleting the one or more contiguous elements ~~element~~ in the first STI.

28. (Amended) The computer system of claim 27, wherein the method further comprises after said deleting:

structuring each output cell of each remaining element of the first STI according to [[the]] the element profile (EP) defined in the first STI; and

maintaining unchanged the content of each input cell of each said remaining element within the first STI.

37. (Amended) The computer program of claim 36, wherein the at least one consistency condition has been satisfied, and wherein the method further comprises:

deleting the one or more contiguous elements ~~element~~ in the first STI.

Drawings

The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant:

Replacement drawings will be provided for the following figures: Figures 2-6 are blurry and unreadable. Figures 16A-C are illegible, as are Figures 20A and 20B.

Figure 19F appears to be blank for elements 2270-2275, which are referenced in the Specification at p. 19-20, therefore a replacement drawing may be required.

In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicants' invention is directed to the management of insertion operations for a recursive scalable template instance a data table having rows and columns, preferably a spreadsheet (Specification, p. 3-4; p. 6, l. 45-p. 9, l. 17). While the prior art discloses the use of templates for formatting the rows and columns of data tables, the prior art does not disclose the specific combination of limitations of independent claim 16, in particular the portions in bold text:

*A method for managing deletion operations in a recursive scalable template instance (RSTI) of a multi-dimensional electronic data table having a first data table dimension (D 1) and a second data table dimension (D2), said RSTI comprising a plurality of contiguous recursive element instances (REIs) ordered and aligned along the dimension D1, **at least two REIs having a different size along the dimension D1, each REI having a same size along the dimension D2**, each REI comprising at least*

one scalable template instance (STI), said method implemented by execution of a

computer program by a processor of a computer system, said method comprising:

deleting, upon satisfaction of at least one consistency condition, one or

more contiguous elements after or before a selected element in a first STI of at

least one STI of a first REI of the plurality of REIs of the RSTI, *the RSTI*

structured according to an associated recursive scalable template (RST), said RST

comprising a recursive element (RE) including at least one scalable template (ST), each

STI of each REI structured according to an associated ST of the at least one ST, each

STI of each REI having a first dimension aligned along the dimension D1 and a second

dimension aligned along the dimension D2, an element being defined as a range of data

that comprises at least one datum, the one or more contiguous elements structured

according to a first ST associated with the first STI; and

adjusting a size of the first REI along the dimension D1 according to a size

of a largest STI in the first REI, all REIs of the RSTI remaining contiguous without

overlapping after said inserting the one or more contiguous elements and after

said adjusting the size of the first REI.

Independent claims 26 and 36 contain similar limitations and are allowable for

the same reasons.

Further, the prior art does not disclose recursive scalable templates being used

with the particular combination of steps in the algorithm as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later

than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on

Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

Lecolinet, "A molecular architecture for creating advanced GUIs", Proceedings, UIST 2003, published 2003 by ACM, p. 135-144.

Rothermel, et al., "A Methodology for Testing Spreadsheets", ACM Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodology, Vol. 10, No. 1, January 2001, p. 110-147.

Szekely, et al., "Beyond interface builders: model-based interface tools", Proceedings of the INTERACT '93 and CHI '93 conference on Human factors in computing systems, published 1993, ACM, p. 383-390.

Bargeron et al.	**U.S. Patent No. 7,246,311 B2**	**issued**	**July 2007**
Smialek	**U.S. Patent No. 7,089,256 B2**	**issued**	**August 2006**
Mogilevsky et al.	**U.S. Patent No. 7,051,276 B1**	**issued**	**May 2006**
Guttman et al.	**U.S. Patent No. 6,988,241 B1**	**issued**	**January 2006**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to AMELIA RUTLEDGE whose telephone number is

(571)272-7508. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:30 - 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached on 571-272-4137. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published

applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status

information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For

more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you

have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business

Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO

Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call

800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AR

/Doug Hutton/
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